

## **Federal Quota Registration and Federal Quota Funds**

### **Federal Quota Registration**

Each year, in January, school districts and educational agencies are asked to register legally blind students under "An Act to Promote the Education of the Blind" (1879). Federal Quota Funds are then allocated based on the number of students registered.

### **Eligibility for Registration**

Meet the definition of blindness -- that is, have a central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with best correction OR a peripheral field of vision no greater than 20 degrees OR function at the definition of blindness when visual performance is reduced by a brain injury or dysfunction.

The student must be enrolled the first Monday in January in a formally organized public, private, or parochial, non-profit educational program of less than college level.

Eligible infants, preschool children, homebound, and home-schooled students may be registered if they are enrolled in a formally organized, regularly scheduled educational or training program, and have a written education plan. Adults to be registered must be receiving a minimum of 20 hours of instruction per week in an educational program of less than college level.

### **Late Enrollment or Change of School**

The Missouri Instructional Resource Center accepts responsibility for students who move into Missouri or who become legally blind between annual registrations.

### **Documents to be Maintained at the Local School in Event of a Federal Audit**

A current (within 3 years) eye report by an ophthalmologist or optometrist giving visual acuity in acceptable form (required)

A written education plan for each student registered (required)

Recommended: Any available assessment reports, such as the Functional Vision Assessment (FVA) offered by Missouri School for the Blind, Outreach Services Division (not required)

### **Federal Quota Funds**

Congress provides funds each year. APH allocates funds to each state. Those funds can be used for purchase of materials from the American Printing House for the Blind (APH) only. The Center manages the Missouri quota as a lump sum. Students may get more or less than the per student allocation, depending on availability of requested items. Even if your student(s) will not be using quota funds, other Missouri students can use the funds, so it is vital to register all eligible students each year. Quota funds supplement local funds; they rarely supply all the materials needed by a student. The student's school often must buy materials using its own funds.